

This bachelor thesis describes and explains the reasons for racial segregation in public transportation in the United States of America since 1820, when the first records of racial segregation in New Orleans can be found. Then it outlines the fight of African Americans against racial segregation on railway until the court case of Plessy v. Ferguson in 1896. Afterwards my thesis employs itself with this case, reasons and circumstances of this case and its process. Lastly my thesis goes into the changes of the tactics of the fight of African Americans against racial discrimination and their fight against the concept of „separate but equal“ in public transportation. On the New Orleans example my thesis outlines the emergence of African American movements and their self-awareness. This thesis also shows the development of African American emancipation from the original fight against unequal accommodations till the struggle to end segregation itself. My thesis is trying to describe these changes on a chosen court cases and on certain laws to show a way, which the African Americans went in their struggle for equality. My thesis is trying to confirm or disconfirm hypothesis that white people had no problem with black passengers as long as the domination of white race over the black one was maintained.